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The books:

MYRA by Barbara Bottner. Macmillan Publishing Co., New York, 1979.
ENCOUNTERS WITH THE INVISIBLE WORLD ("The Ghost in the Shed") by Marilynne K. Roach. Thomas Y. Crowell Co., New York, 1977.
THE PRACTICAL PRINCESS by Jay Williams. Parents' Magazine Press, New York, 1969.
THE FURIOUS FLYCYCLE by Jan Wahl. Delacorte Press, New York, 1968.

MYRA

CONTENT

When Myra goes to dancing class, she leaps, sways and kicks, just as Mrs. Page tells her to. But her enthusiasm and imagination go far beyond Mrs. Page. The class leaps like frogs—but Myra becomes a frog. They swim like fish. Myra creates a pool of water to swim in. But when she kicks like a donkey (and turns into one, too), her friends have had enough. Myra promises to behave herself, but with such an active imagination, promises are hard to keep. Anything is possible for Myra.

OBJECTIVES

To stimulate imagination. To encourage creativity in the arts and in verbal expression.

SUGGESTED DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIVITIES

Before Viewing Film:

Have a short discussion about imagination and pretending: imagination can take us a long way; it's nice to pretend to be different people and things; pretending isn't real.

After Viewing Film:

How can Myra turn into a tree, or frog, or fish? Is that real? Can you do that? What does happen when you pretend?

The other children like dancing, too. Why don't they become the things that Myra does?

How do the other children feel when Myra's imagination affects them?

Myra promises Mrs. Page there will be "no funny business", but she disobeys. What do you feel about that?

Pretend you are an animal, plant, or piece of furniture. Act it out for the class. Have them guess what you are.

Write a story about something you imagine yourself to be. Illustrate it with a picture.

(MYRA by Barbara Bottner. Macmillan Publishing Co., New York, 1979.)

From Encounters With The Invisible World

THE GHOST IN THE SHED

CONTENT

This is a whimsical story of a polite, but persistent ghost. A modest Vermont peddler has been foully murdered and secretly buried by a farm family with whom he has taken refuge for the night. Years pass; the crime is undetected, and the house is sold to a new, upstanding family. But the peddler's troubled spirit